



**PATENT** 

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFF

Applicant:

Tchao, Ruy

Serial No.:

09/472,490

Filed:

December 23,

CHEMOTAXIS ASSAY For:

**PROCEDURE** 

Examiner:

Unassigne

Group Art Unit:

Docket:

102-302 RE/CON

Dated:

February 25, 2000

I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: February 25, 2000

Signature: K.J. Goodhand/ K.J.

Assistant Commissioner For Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In advance of examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

(Amended) An assay that is non-destructive of a sample being detected comprising the steps of:

[labeling said sample];

placing said [labeled] sample in a first chamber;

labeling said sample in said first chamber;

separating said first chamber from said second chamber with a permeable, detectionblocking membrane;